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CONGRESS BENT ON MILITIA EXPANSION IN DEFIANCE OF ALL EXPERTS' WARNINGS

Senate Committee Turns to Plattsburg Experiment for Aid.

OFFICIAL CHARACTER FOR SUMMER CAMPS

Scheme Offered as a Compromise for Continental Army Proposal

TO GIVE MONEY FOR THE INSTRUCTION

House Bill Not as Sweeping

Wants.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Now that Secretary Garrison's continental army plan has been virtually thrown out by President Wilson tension here is being focussed upon the militia. It seems certain that an expansion of the National

The most startling feature of the sit-

condemned not only by Mr. Garrison but by Ellihu Root, former Secretary of War, and by the best expert opinion that has been summoned before the two committees of Congress. It was not realized here, until the Garrison episode empha-

Practically the only experts who have urged military development along this line have been men who were actively interested in the militia organization themselves.

several eminent experts, and constitutes a condemnation of the very plan which the Senate leaders, with the apparent acquiescence of the President, are now proceeding to map out.

exposing the futility of attempting to rely on the militia is contained in a letter recently written by Elihu Root. Mr. Root, after years of experience in the War Department and in the Senate,

4 "In my view it is idle to talk of deve-

the failure of the whole movement and the waste of all energy and effort.

"In time of peace they are rendered a most useful service by training in the use of arms."

President may think when he seeks suitable men to be appointed officers in a national army. The idea, however, that these forty-eight different bodies, troops, with officers appointed by forty-eight different Governors can be an

Scattered Authority.

"This characteristic of the Nation Guard cannot be changed except

quire many years, and if that were do the result would simply be not to develop an army upon the National Guard but to destroy the National Guard and to develop an army on an entirely different basis.

the National Guard into the regular national army of defense will be worth more than thrown away because it will rest in the miscarriage of the whole effort.

is found voicing in this statement exactly the views of Mr. Garrison which he wrote to President Wilson and to him that the enactment of the proposed militia programme in the place of

It has been pointed out that one of the greatest drawbacks to any plan for the development of militia into an

upon until after war has been actual-
declared.

If Japan should threaten an invasion
of Mexico it would be a protective strat-
egy for the United States, as well as Mex-
ico, because an adequate force, mobility

Another Drawback.

The objections were summed up

the greatest drawbacks to any plan for the development of militia into an organization to take the place of a Federal reserve is that it cannot be called out after war has been declared.

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The objections were summed up